



State of Tennessee
Department of Finance and Administration
Bureau of TennCare
310 Great Circle Road
Nashville, TN 37243

Phil Bredesen
Governor

M.D. Goetz, Jr.
Commissioner

Memo

To: TennCare Providers

From: Darin J. Gordon, Deputy Commissioner

Date: September 2, 2008

Re: Medicaid eligible hurricane refugees seeking care in Tennessee

As an obvious effect of the shelter and aid Tennessee is offering many refugees of hurricane Gustav, Medicaid enrollees from Louisiana and Mississippi are seeking medical and pharmacy services in our state.

We are encouraging all TennCare providers to see these patients and provide appropriate services as needed. For those evacuees who are Medicaid eligible in their home states, you will be able to enroll as a provider in that state's Medicaid program and bill that state for the services you provide. Many of the Medicaid eligible individuals fleeing the disaster areas are likely to not have the standard required documentation. Hopefully, this lack of documentation will not result in your offices not providing appropriate care.

You may remember that when Hurricane Katrina occurred, Congress appropriated funds for a special uncompensated care pool. While that authority does not exist for Hurricane Gustav as yet, you will want to keep up with any costs you incur for serving evacuees with no insurance, including Medicare, in the event that Congress takes similar action this time.

Unfortunately, due to computer system incompatibility, TennCare cannot process Louisiana or Mississippi pharmacy claims directly. You can access the pharmacy provider enrollment form for Louisiana and Mississippi Medicaid from the TennCare website www.tennessee.gov/tenncare and chose the pharmacy link.

For providers who wish to enroll in Louisiana Medicaid and were not enrolled as a Katrina provider, go to the Louisiana Medicaid website at www.dhh.louisiana.gov/offices/?ID=92 Choose Gustav in black circle and scroll down to Medicaid Providers for enrollment instructions. For providers who were enrolled for Katrina, they can email Louisiana Medicaid at jphilli2@dhh.la.gov with their Katrina provider number and NPI number and Louisiana will activate the Katrina provider number.

For providers who wish to enroll in Mississippi Medicaid visit Mississippi's web portal at <https://msmedicaid.acs-inc.com/msenvision/> or call (800) 884-3222.